

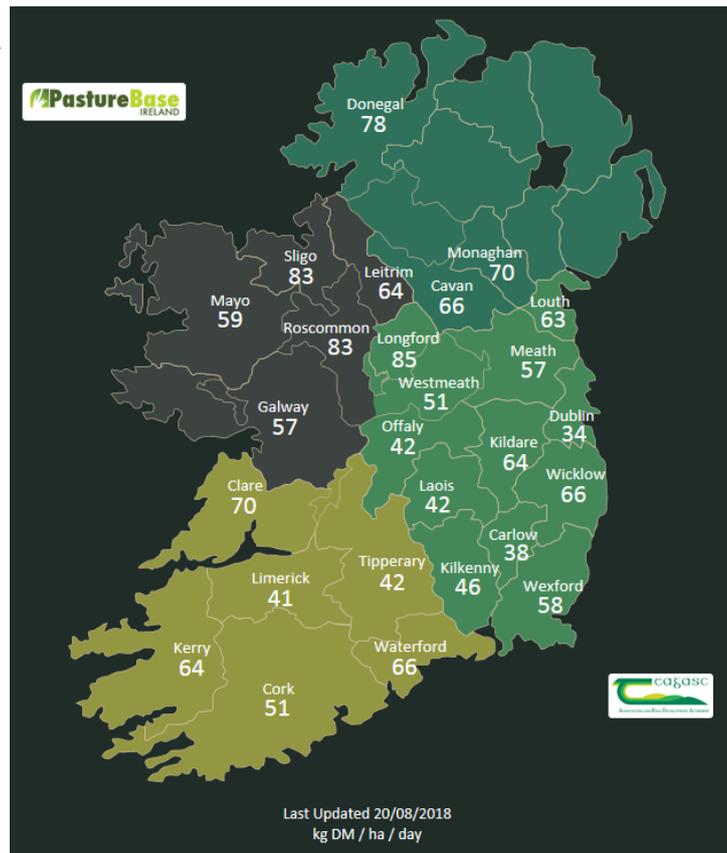
21st August 2018

Current Pasture Performance PastureBase Ireland: www.pbi.ie Micheal O'Leary



	Farm Cover (kg DM/ha)	Cover/LU (kg DM/LU)	Stocking Rate (LU/ha)	Growth (kg DM/ha)	Demand (kg DM/ha)
Average	755	237	3.2	56	41
Drought Area	590	203	2.9	29	32

- See the map to see areas that are currently suffering from drought (some areas never received enough rain to recover from the initial drought and some areas are experiencing a secondary drought)
- Rainfall for August so far: Curtins 9 mm, Ballyhaise 52 mm, Athenry 69 mm and Grange 24 mm.
- The new offline app is available to use on iPhones and androids. Search PBI Grass on Google Play or the App Store to download



Dry Matter Results:

Location	Moorepark	Grange
Sampling Date	20/08/18	20/08/18
Time of Day	09.00	16:45
Weather	Cloudy	Cloudy
DM%:	18.7%	16.54%

Monitoring Your Farm Cover:

PastureBase Average Figures	Drought Area Figures
Average Farm Cover: 755 kgDM/ha Growth: 56 KgDM/ha Demand: 41 kgDM/ha	Average Farm Cover: 590 kgDM/ha Growth: 29 KgDM/ha Demand: 32 kgDM/ha
56 (Growth) - 41 (Demand) = 15 kgDM/ha surplus/growth/day	29 (Growth) - 32 (Demand) = 3 kgDM/ha deficit/day
AFC 755 + (15 surplus X 10 days) = AFC: 905 kgDM/ha Sept 1st (on target)	AFC 590 + (-3 deficit X 10 days)= AFC: 560 kgDM/ha Sept 1st
Farmers need to monitor growth rates to make sure growth rates stay above 56 kgDM/ha to meet autumn targets	Farmers need to reduce demand through greater supplementation or culling to avoid running down farm cover

- The target rotation length for August is 25-30 days to build grass for the autumn (AFC: 850-900 kg DM/ha by August 31st)
- If farm cover is below target at any stage, take quick action to bring it back on course as much as possible (remove surplus stock or introduce a higher level of supplementation)

21st August 2018

Fertiliser Strategy:

- Farms experiencing high growth rates should continue to spread fertiliser to maximise grass growth this autumn. The main objective is to build grass for the autumn and cut surplus bales if possible to fill the feed deficit on farms
- Farms suffering from drought should take the opportunity to spread fertiliser when there is some rainfall
- Lime should be spread on farms when ground conditions are good to rectify paddocks acidic in pH
- The chemical fertiliser and slurry deadlines have been extended to help farmers maximise grass growth this autumn



August Grazing Targets:

Some farms have come out of drought (or might not have suffered from drought) and are currently experiencing above average growth rates. Priority on these farms should be to build grass for the autumn. The following are the grazing targets to reach by August 31st:

Date	Cover/Cow (Kg DM)	Average Farm Cover (Kg DM/Ha)	Rotation Length
STOCKING RATE OF 2.5 LU/Ha			
August 31st	300	750	30 Days
STOCKING RATE OF 3.0 LU/Ha			
August 31st	330	990	30 Days
STOCKING RATE OF 3.5 LU/Ha			
August 31st	280	980	30 Days

Drought Message:

Unfortunately, some farms are still experiencing drought or have started experiencing a secondary drought. The following are examples of supplementation strategies to try to build grass while growth rates remain low:

A Farmer with Little or No Silage Reserve (Deficit)	A Farmer with Enough Silage
Feed 5-6 kg concentrates along with a high fibre concentrate (2-3 kg) to build grass for the autumn (cow/day)	Feed 6-7 kg concentrates, some silage (depends on farm cover and growth rates) and grass to build grass for the autumn (cow/day)
Consider reducing demand by culling empty/ poor performing cows	Monitor growth rates and when growth rates exceed demand, reduce silage supplementation before concentrate supplementation (if possible)
If demand is still exceeding the growth rate of the farm, silage must be fed	Any under-performing livestock should be culled to reduce demand

Grassland Farmer of the Year: Thank you to everyone who entered into the Grassland Farmer of the Year Competition 2018. We wish you all the best of luck in the competition.